

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

USDA FOREST SERVICE, REGION 8, NATIONAL FORESTS IN FLORIDA

and the

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY PRESCRIBED FIRE TRAINING CENTER

This **MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING** is hereby entered into by and between the USDA Forest Service, National Forests in Florida, hereinafter referred to as the NF in Florida, and the National Interagency Prescribed Fire Training Center, hereinafter referred to as PFTC.

A. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a framework for cooperation to enhance and improve prescribed fire application across the country. When PFTC was originated in 1998, the NF in Florida was selected to host the center in Tallahassee, Florida. This document provides the framework for administrative services by the NF in Florida and PFTC. This cooperation serves the mutual interest of the parties and the public.

B. STATEMENT OF MUTUAL BENEFITS AND INTERESTS:

The NF in Florida has one of the largest prescribed burning programs. PFTC offers one of the few field level prescribed fire training opportunities in the country. It is in the mutual interest of both parties to develop and train prescribed fire managers and practitioners for the future. Both parties are also interested in building cooperative relationships that support prescribed fire and developing managers who clearly understand the benefits and risks of prescribed fire. Both parties are further interested in educating the public on the benefits of prescribed fire. The mission of PFTC addresses all these issues and it is clearly in the interest of the NF in Florida to support PFTC. In consideration of the above premises, the parties agree as follows:

C. NF IN FLORIDA SHALL:

1. Provide Administrative services to PFTC including: procurement, staffing and personnel activities, information management systems support, and financial management support.
2. Provide the specific support detailed in the PFTC / NF in Florida Operating Plan which is attached to and made part of this agreement.

D. PFTC SHALL:

1. Provide conference room facilities and audio-visual equipment for use by NF in Florida
2. Provide engines and other available fleet to NF in Florida during times when PFTC sessions are not scheduled.
3. Provide the specific support detailed in the PFTC / NF in Florida Operating Plan which is attached to and made part of this agreement.

E. IT IS MUTUALLY AGREED AND UNDERSTOOD BY ALL PARTIES THAT:

1. OPERATING PLAN. The operating plan is a part of this agreement. It will be reviewed annually by both parties and any changes or additions made in accordance with the modification clause contained below.
2. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA). Any information furnished to the Forest Service under this instrument is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552).
3. MODIFICATION. Modifications within the scope of the instrument shall be made by mutual consent of the parties, by the issuance of a written modification, signed and dated by all parties, prior to any changes being performed.
4. PARTICIPATION IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES. This instrument in no way restricts the Forest Service or the Cooperator(s) from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
5. COMMENCEMENT/EXPIRATION DATE. The instrument is executed as of the date of the last signature and is effective through September 30, 2007 at which time it will expire unless extended.
6. TERMINATION. Any of the parties, in writing, may terminate the instrument in whole, or in part, at any time before the date of expiration.

Neither party shall incur any new obligations for the terminated portion of the instrument after the effective date and shall cancel as many obligations as possible. Full credit shall be allowed for each Party's expenses and all non-cancelable obligations properly incurred up to the effective date of termination.

7. PRINCIPAL CONTACT. The principal contacts for this instrument are:

Forest Service Project Contact	Cooperator Project Contact
Joe Ferguson, Fire Mgmt. Staff Officer	Phil Weston, Director
National Forests in Florida	Prescribed Fire Training Center
325 John Knox Rd., Suite F-100	3250 Capital Circle SW
Tallahassee, FL 32303	Tallahassee, FL 32310
Phone: 850-523-8562	Phone: 850-523-8633
FAX: 850-523-8505	FAX: 850-523-8640
E-Mail: jferguson@fs.fed.us	E-Mail: pweston@fs.fed.us

Forest Service Administrative Contact	Cooperator Administrative Contact
Sandra Ashburn, Administrative Officer	Bess Dickson, Administrative Specialist
National Forests in Florida	Prescribed Fire Training Center
325 John Knox Rd., Suite F-100	3250 Capital Circle SW
Tallahassee, FL 32303	Tallahassee, FL 32310
Phone: 850-523-8532	Phone: 850-523-8631
FAX: 850-523-8543	FAX: 850-523-8632
E-Mail: sashburn@fs.fed.us	E-Mail: bdickson@fs.fed.us

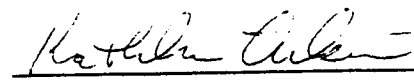
8. NON-FUND OBLIGATING DOCUMENT. This instrument is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Any endeavor or transfer of anything of value involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this instrument will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including those for Government procurement and printing. Such endeavors will be outlined in separate agreements that shall be made in writing by representatives of the parties and shall be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This instrument does not provide such authority. Specifically, this instrument does not establish authority for noncompetitive award to the cooperator of any contract or other agreement. Any contract or agreement for training or other services must fully comply with all applicable requirements for competition.

THE PARTIES HERETO have executed this instrument as of Sept 10, 2002.

NATIONAL INTERAGENCY PRESCRIBED
FIRE TRAINING CENTER

USDA FOREST SERVICE
NATIONAL FORESTS IN FLORIDA


PHILLIP WESTON
Director


MARSHA KEARNEY
Forest Supervisor

The authority and format of this
instrument has been reviewed and
approved for signature

Sharon Moore 8/20/02
SHARON MOORE Date
FS Agreement Coordinator